

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 ACDA-07 DHA-02 EUR-12  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5468  
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
USUN NEW YORK 1828

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 18683

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG UN TH  
SUBJECT: WELLS/PETREE PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS: POLITICAL ISSUES

1. USUN POL COUNSELOR PETREE IN PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS MEETING WITH MFA'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPT DIRECTOR-GENERAL PHIRAPHONG KASEMSI ON AUG 19 PRESENTED GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF POLITICAL ISSUES AT UN INCLUDING EXPECTATIONS THAT KOREA WOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED THIS YEAR AND GUAM RES MAY NOT BE AS CONTENTIOUS AS IN PAST. PETREE FOCUSSED PARTICULARLY ON RECENT US EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. HE AGREED THAT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND FELT THAT THE SITUATION COULD EASILY PRESENT A THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY. AS AN OUTSIDER, PHIRAPHONG SAID THAILAND SHOULD DO NOTHING TO DEOPARDIZE US EFFORTS.

2. PHIRAPHONG SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED ASSESSMENT AND WAS SYMPATHETIC TO US NEGOTIATING EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST WHICH HE FELT WOULD EVENTUALLY REDOUNT TO US ADVANTAGE AT UN.

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3. OF THE MIDDLE EAST PHIRAPHONG SAID HE HOPED GENEVA CONFERENCE COULD BE RESUMED AND EXPRESSED CONCERN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF GENEVA CONFERENCE FAILED TO RESUME. PHIRAPHONG URGED THAT THE US CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS AND ASKED WHETHER THE US WOULD CONSIDER A REVISION TO RES 242. PETREE REPLIED THAT THE US WOULD OPPOSE ANY REVISION.

4. PETREE SAID THAT THE US WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE KOREAN QUESTION WOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED AT UNGA THIS YEAR. PRESENT READING WAS THAT NORTH KOREANS DID NOT INTEND TO PUSH THE ISSUE--NON-ALIGNED LACKED INTEREST, ANNOUNCED US TROOP WITHDRAWAL MAY HAVE AFFECTED NORTH KOREAN ANALYSIS OF SITUATION, AND EASTERN EUROPEANS APPEARED NOT TO BE AS DETERMINED AS IN PAST TO SUPPORT NORTH KOREAN CAUSE. PHIRAPHONG SAID HE ALSO HOPED KOREAN QUESTION COULD AGAIN BE AVOIDED.

5. RE INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, PHIRAPHONG SAID THAT THAILAND HAD ABSTAINED WHEN ORIGINAL DECLARATION HAD BEEN ADOPTED BECAUSE IT FELT EXPECTATIONS WERE UNREALISTIC. ON SUBSEQUENT RESOLUTIONS, WHICH PHIRAPHONG CHARACTERIZED AS PROCEDURAL, THAILAND HAD VOTED IN AFVOR. THIS INCLUDED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, ALTHOUGH THAILAND WAS NOT A MEMBER. PHIRAPHONG NOTED THAT THAILAND STILL HAD AN ARRANGEMENT BY WHICH THE US COULD USE THE COUNTRY FOR REFUELING SUPPLY FLIGHTS TO DIEGO GARCIA. LITTORAL STATES COULD HAVE MADE AN ISSUE OF THIS, BUT HAD NOT, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE THEY KNEW US TROOPS HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN. PETREE SAID THAT US AND USSR HAD GENERALLY AGREED NOT TO ESCALATE THEIR PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, BUT ONE PROBLEM IS DEFINITION OF BOUNDARIES OF INDIAN OCEAN AND MEASURE FOR STATING PRESENCE. BOTH COUNTRIES HAD AGREED TO KEEP FRIENDS INFORMED OF PROGRESS OF TALKS AS WELL AS THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. PHIRAPHONG SAID THAILAND APPRECIATED BEING KEPT CONFIDENTIAL

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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